

## Message Text

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61  
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 IO-14 DRC-01 /156 W

----- 091907

R 281000Z FEB 74  
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3170  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0206

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EMIN, SF  
SUBJECT: S.A. COAL RESOURCES AND TRADE

REF: STATE 4413; C-ER-4-57785

1. WITH OVER 2,000 MILLION METRIC TONS OF PROVEN MINEABLE RESERVES AT A PITHEAD PRICE OF R2.70 PER METRIC TON (TRANSVAAL COLLIERIES), S.A. ANTICIPATES SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN COAL EXPORTS AS RESULT OF CURRENT PETROLEUM SHORTAGE.

2. ACCORDING TO TRANSVAAL COAL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, IT HAS RECENTLY NEGOTIATED LARGE CONTRACTS WITH JAPAN, GERMANY, FRANCE AND THE U.S., WITH DELIVERIES BEGINNING EARLY 1976. DETAILS NOT RPT NOT MADE AVAILABLE. (RECENT CONTRACT WITH GULF STREAM POWER STATION OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, REPORTED PRETORIA 4591.) ON DEC. 12, SAG PLACED COAL EXPORTS UNDER EXPORT CONTROL (PRETORIA 4642); HOWEVER, THIS GENERALLY REGARDED AS PRECAUTIONARY AND NOT RPT NOT AFFECTING EFFORTS

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TO INCREASE EXPORTS.

3. SAG TRADE STATISTICS (BASED ON RECEIPT OF CUSTOMS DOCUMENTS IN PRETORIA AND INCLUDING SOME OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1971 LOADINGS) SHOW 1972 EXPORTS AS: ANTHRACITE 1 167 508 METRIC TONS (R7,6 MILLION), BITUMINOUS 342 469 METRIC TONS (R1,6 MILLION). SOME SMALL PRODUCTION FROM BOTSWANA AND SWAZILAND IS INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE FITURES. SAG MINES DEPARTMENT AND COAL PRODUCERS' STATISTICS (COMPILED AT TIME OF ACTUAP SHIP LOADINGAL GIVE 1972 EXPORTS OF: ANTHRACITE 679 934 METRIC TOMS (R5 MILLION); BITUMINOUS 544 595 METRIC TONS (R2,9 MILLION). FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, INETHERLANDS, JAPAN AND ITALY WERE THE PRINCIPAL IMPORTERS OF S.A. ANTHRACITE IN 1972, WITH NETHERLANDS, CHILE AND ITALY TAKING THE BITUMINOUS. 1973 EXPORTS (MINES DEPARTMENT FIGURES THROUGH SEPTEMBER) TOTAL: ANTHRACITE 670 541 METRIC TONS (R5,6 MILLION) BITUMINOUS 428 223 (R2,6 MILLION). THIS IS APPROXIMATE LEVEL MAINTAINED SINCE 1969.

4. COAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL ENERGY ARE ESTIMATED AT 45 MILLION METRIC TONS PER ANNUM IN 1980, RISING TO 94 MILLION IN 2000 IF A DUAL-CYCLE SYSTEM IS INTRODUCED IN 1990. WITHOUT THIS SYSTEM 108 MILLION TONS WILL BE REQUIRED IN 2000.

5. NO PLANS FOR RAPID EXPANSION IN PRODUCTION ARE ENVISAGED AT PRESENT. CONSTRUCTION OF STRATEGICALLY LOCATED STOCKPILES TO SERVE POTENTIAL INCREASES IN INDUSTRIAL USE HAS BEGUN IN NATAL AND CAPE PROVINCE. TWO PNEUMATIC BULK TRUCKS, CAPABLE OF DELIVERING EIGHT TOMS OF COAL TO BUNKERS VIA A CURBSIDE HOSE CONNECTION, HAVE RECENTLY COMPLETED ACCEPTANCE TRIALS JOHANNESBURG. COAL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION ANTICIPATES A FLEET OF 20 SUCH VEHICLES FOR MUNICIPAL USE IN THE TRANSVAAL BY MID-1975.  
DEGRACE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COAL MINING, NEGOTIATIONS, CONTRACTS, ECONOMIC RESOURCES, EXPORT CONTROLS, TRADE DATA, ELECTRIC POWER  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974JOHANN00206  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** JOHANNESBURG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974023/aaaaacom.tel  
**Line Count:** 95  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 4413; C-ER-4-57785  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** S.A. COAL RESOURCES AND TRADE  
**TAGS:** EMIN, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005